(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total worth of items imported during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The provisional value of total import of sensitive items during April-November, 2004 is Rs. 12,462 crores as compared to Rs. 12,520 crores during the corresponding period of previous year thereby showing a negative growth of 0.5%.

(c) The total value of items imported during April-November 2004 was Rs. 2,92,566 crore (provisional) as compared to Rs. 2,20,924 crore during the corresponding period of last year.

Imposition of anti-dumping duty on sea food by the US

2337. SHRI B.J. PANDA;
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the USA has imposed final anti-dumping duty on sea food imports from our country;

(b) if so, whether, it is lower than the earlier one; and

(c) if so, how, far it has put our industry on a better footing compared to the previous duty regime?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) US Department of Commerce announced the final anti-dumping duty of 10.17% on Indian sea food imports from India.

(b) The preliminary anti-dumping duty imposed on Indian sea food by US Department of Commerce was 14.20%. After hearing our arguments by the lawyer and also based on the statistics furnished by the mandatory respondents, the US Department of Commerce has now fixed the antidumping duty to 10.17%.

(c) With the reduced rate of anti-dumping duty now fixed at 10.17%, the sea food exporters from India are certainly on a better footing compared to the preliminary duty earlier fixed. This will make our products more competitive in the US markets.